GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3153
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2017
Conversion of Roads in Naxalite Areas
Hemamalini Smt.

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to convert roads into highways in various parts of the country to provide adequate road connectivity to the Naxalite affected regions and to link them to the mainstream of Indian economy;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the amount earmarked for such conversion during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the time by which such conversion of roads into highways is likely to be completed along with the progress made in this regard, as on date; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN)

(a) to (d) The Ministry is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways (NHs). The Ministry considers declaration of some State roads as new NHs from time to time depending upon requirement of connectivity, inter-se-priority and availability of funds.

The Ministry has taken up a separate scheme for development of 5,477 km roads (NHs and State Roads) in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Telangana and Uttar Pradesh affected by Left Wing Extremism (LWE) for an approved cost of Rs. 7,300 crore. Apart from this, the Ministry has also taken development of 592 km road (NH and State Road) falling in LWE affected areas of Vijayawada − Ranchi (VR) corridor in the State of Odisha for an approved cost of Rs. 1,200 crore.

The State/ Union Territory (UT)-wise details of State roads declared as new NHs in the country during the last three years are at Annexure-I.

No separate funds are allocated for declaration of State Roads as new NHs/ expansion of NH network.

State/ UT − wise details of funds allocated for development of roads in LWE affected areas and for development of VR corridor in the State of Odisha during the last three years are at Annexure-II.

Works in about 4,831 km length has been completed under the scheme for development of roads in LWE affected areas and VR corridor till June, 2017. Works have been taken up in length of about 1,180 km. Anticipated completion for these schemes is March, 2019.

Ministry has taken various steps for speedy completion of projects under these schemes, such as authorising State Governments to accept bids upto 10 percent excess over cost of work based on current Schedule of Rates (SOR), allowing States to adopt separate SOR for LWE affected areas for preparation of cost estimates, if required, permitting splitting of works into smaller packages to enable local contractors to participate where there is no response to tenders even after several notices inviting tenders, etc.